Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/EP2003/013406 Int'l filing date : November 28, 2003

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to conform with the rules of practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Support is found in the claims and specification as filed. Specifically, support for amended claims 17 and 19 is found on page 18, lines 25-29. Support for the amendment to claim 29 is found on page 17, lines 18-26. Support for the amendment to claim 30 is found on page 19, lines 3-4.

The specification has been amended to recite the International Application. The word "CLAIMS" has been deleted and substituted by "WHAT IS CLAIMED IS" so that subsequently appearing claims will be the object of a sentence as specified by M.P.E.P. section 608.01(m). As a result of this preliminary amendment, Claims 25-28 have been cancelled and Claims 1-24, and 29-30 have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-24, and 29-30 are presented for examination. No new matter is being added herewith.

Abstract

An Abstract on a separate sheet is included herewith.

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Conclusion

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Should there be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at the telephone number appearing below. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: <u>may 30 2006</u>

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